



Maryland Agriculture Data

Weekly Crop and Weather Report



MD-CW1502

July 8, 2002

Another Dry Week...

Another dry week hit Maryland with most counties receiving no precipitation, allowing farmers 6.7 **days suitable for field work**. By mid-week, highs reached up to 100 degrees before cooling off to the low 80's by the weeks end. The extreme high temperatures in combination with arid conditions last week may hinder pollination and plant growth, particularly in row crops. **Corn** is curling and showing stress, especially in sandy soils and non-irrigated fields. Corn rated in good condition dropped 22 percent from the previous week. Yield could be negatively affected if rain doesn't arrive soon. **Soybean** growth has also been hindered by the lack of moisture. Soybeans rated in good condition fell by 24 percent from the previous week.

The full week of field work allowed farmers to advance harvesting activities. **Winter wheat** is 89 percent harvested, 33 percent ahead of last year, and 24 percent ahead of the five year average. **Barley** harvest is virtually complete. Harvesting for vegetables such as **snap beans** and **sweet corn** are running 25 percent and 3 percent ahead of schedule respectively.

Topsoil moisture rated in adequate condition continued to fall by 21 percent from the previous week. Topsoil moisture is currently rated 18 percent adequate, 46 percent short, and 36 percent very short. **Subsoil moisture** rated in adequate condition declined by 12 percent. Subsoil is rated 10 percent adequate, 57 percent short, and 33 percent very short.

MARYLAND'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 7, 2002 (PERCENT)

ITEM	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1997-2001
Planting Progress:				
Soybeans	94	90	89	87
Harvesting Progress:				
Winter Wheat	89	60	56	65
Cantaloupes	6	- -	10	8
Cucumbers	31	20	38	31
Potatoes	13	4	19	28
Snap beans	46	34	17	21
Sweet Corn	14	4	15	11
Tomatoes	5	1	9	8
Crop Progress				
Corn, silked	38	8	23	20
Tobacco, bloomed	5	- -	9	8
Hay Harvested:				
Other hay, 2 nd cutting	35	34	36	37
Other hay, 3 rd cutting	19	4	11	14
Alfalfa, 2nd cutting	90	70	57	66
Alfalfa, 3 rd cutting	22	6	19	11

CROP CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 7, 2002 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	7	19	42	27	5
Sorghum	0	0	35	65	0
Soybeans	7	16	41	32	4
Tobacco	0	4	55	35	6
Range & Pasture	11	21	49	18	1

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